news

TOWN PLANNING INSTITUTE OF CANADA

Vol. 1 No. 4 MARCH 1956

ANNUAL MEETING AND CONFERENCE

OTTAWA - NOVEMBER 18TH & 19TH, 1955

This issue of the News is primarily devoted to the Ottawa meeting.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

In his survey of the profession Dr. Faludi commenced by saying that "community planning is assured of its place as a vital factor in Municipal and Provincial government. He illustrated this by estimating that over 800 persons in Canada are employed publicly and privately in aspects of physical planning but that in spite of this there was a growing shortage of trained planners.

This shortage, in the opinion of the President, brings with it the evil of "infiltration into the planning ranks of persons who have neither the qualifications nor the spirit to perform adequate planning jobs..." The danger to the profession has to be recognised and it was suggested by Dr. Faludi that "in order to safeguard the welfare of our communities and integrity of the planning profession, we should claim an official status for our profession".

The address then outlined the dangers of bureaucratic planning and the tendency, despite the staff shortage for many planners to be spending their time on ordinary office administration.

After describing the encouraging move towards the creation of regional chapters, the President posed the question ... Have we a planning philosophy. He then discussed how a philosophy can be related to the material standards of modern living and the need for the planner to think ... "in terms of planning for the new age and new world of technological advances ..." In doing this the planner should also aim at making the "city livable again". Problems such as traffic should be tackled not on a basis of narrow engineering but as a part of "comprehensive metropolitan or regional planning."

The President decried our zoning bylaws and Court decisions describing them as extremely narrow, unimaginative and, in many cases, obsolete.

Dr. Faludi concluded by stating that the future of planning lies with the "planners who have a broad outlook and a well-founded philosophy."

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Mr. R.N. Dryden's report included information on membership, Meetings of Council and the financial position of the Institute. Present membership is:

Honorary members	4
Full members	46
Associate members	74
Student members	16
Total	140

This amounted to an increase of 21 members over the preceding year.

The financial report for the last fiscal year was presented by Mr. Dryden and was accepted together with the Auditor's report.

COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATIONS

In a short report Mr. A.H. Roberts gave an account of the activities of this committee which is responsible for the publication of the NEWS.

The report also gave a brief outline of the policy governing the choice of material to be published and expressed the indebtedness of the Committee to the reporters who have been forwarding news from various parts of Canada.

CANADIAN ARTS COUNCIL

Mr. D.F. Taylor read the report of Mr. T.A.C Tyrell which stated that he and Mr. Norman Dryden had represented the Institute at the meeting of the Canadian Arts Council held on the 6th - 7th, June 1955. This was the first occasion upon which the Institute had been represented on this body.

The main theme of the meeting was the need for greater governmental and private support for Canadian Art.

REGIONAL CHAPTERS

Ottawa - Mr. G. Nordmann

After an inaugural meeting on the 18th November 1954, five further meetings were held during the Winter under the chairmanship of Mr. H.S.M. Carver. An average attendance of about 20 persons was obtained. Subjects discussed included planning for the Capital by the Municipality and Federal District Commission and the final meeting was devoted to the Institute and the place of the regional chapters within the organisation.

Central Ontario - Mr. Murray V. Jones

The first meeting of this Chapter was held in Toronto on November 22nd, 1954 and was followed by six other meetings which discussed such subjects as "Inadequacies of the Ontario Planning Act", "Joint Planning Boards as a basis for Regional Planning", "The role of zoning in implementing the Official Plan" and "Planning in Metropolitan Toronto".

The highlight of the session was the combined conference with Michigan Chapter of the American Institute of Planners which attracted about 125 delegates to London, Ontario, where they considered the implications of the St. Lawrence Seaway.

Edmonton - Mr. F. Marlyn

This report was presented on Saturday morning. The Edmonton Chapter held three meetings in 1955. The first of these dealt with objectives for the Institute and suggested that the Institute promote University planning courses, a central Institute Library, a planning Journal, a research fund and the organisation of international conferences.

The second and third meetings dealt with possible contributions to the Royal Commission on Canada's economic Prospects and proposals for amendments to the Institute's Bylaws.

British Columbia - Mr. J.A. Walker

The majority of the professional planners in British Columbia are not members of the Institute but they have recently met together as a group to consider methods of professional organisation. At their second meeting held on November 8th, 1955, they considered affiliation with the T.P.I.C. and the general concensus of opinion as expressed by the Chairman Mr. G. Sutton Brown was that Planners should be registered by law on a Provincial level as a distinct group but that there was also a need for a confederation of Provincial associations on a national level.

REPORT ON EDUCATION

Mr. H.S.M. Carver

Mr. Carver explained that there were four types of educational programmes needed. These are:

1 - Training for professional planners

2 - Limited University planning courses for the allied professions

3 - Refresher courses for those now in Planning

4 - Planning education for the lay public.

After describing the contribution being made to planning education by Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, Mr. Carver outlined some of the problems which impede the expansion of planning education but he was also able to report progress in some areas such as Toronto where the University have been fortunate in obtaining Professor Gordon Stephenson to head their new course in Town and Regional Planning.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Friday morning session finished with the election of the following officers:

President
A.P.C. Adamson, Toronto, Ont.

Secretary-Treasurer
H.T. Lemon, Toronto, Ont.

1st Vice-President
P.A. Deacon, Toronto, Ont.

2nd Vice-President
B. Pelletier, Quebec, Que.

Councillors
A. Armstrong, Ottawa, Ont.
C.E. Campeau, Montreal, Que.
R.N. Dryden, Kitchener, Ont.
E.G. Faludi, Toronto, Ont.
E. Fiset, Quebec, Que.
L. Gertler, Edmonton, Alta.
S.H. Pickett, St.John's, Nfld.
D.J. Redington, Toronto, Ont.
D.F. Taylor, Toronto, Ont.
J.A. Walker, Vancouver, B.C.
M. Zides, Regina, Sask.

CANADA'S URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND THE PLANNER

Under the chairmanship of the new President Mr. A.P.C. Adamson the meeting heard three members of a panel discuss the subject from

three different aspects. Mr. S. Bates, President of Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation presented an invigorating paper on the "Need for an Ideal". This most valuable contribution has since been published in the December issue of the Community Planning Review.

Mr. D.J. Reddington followed with an account of some of the practical problems facing the planner in everyday administration and to complete the three statements Mr. A.H. Roberts responded to some of the comments made by Mr. Bates and Mr. Reddington. General discussion from the floor followed.

DINNER MEETING

Mr. John R. Baldwin, Deputy Minister of Transport, Ottawa, spoke after the dinner held on the Friday evening. On the subject of Air Ports and Town Planning, Mr. Baldwin dealt with the land and other requirements for airports and gave examples of how these needs affected zoning and town development generally.

Copies of Mr. Baldwin's address have been made available to the Institute and will be distributed to members.

MEMBERSHIP

The morning session on Saturday, November 19, was devoted to a general discussion on the subject of membership which was preceded by statements from a panel of three persons under the chairmanship of Mr. D.F. Taylor.

Mr. E.A. Gomme drew a distinction between ethics as a personal quality and a code of professional conduct and concluded by posing a number of questions to the meeting. The question which aroused the most interest was whether a municipal consultant should accept work for a private client in the same municipality.

Mr. Norman Dryden opened the discussion on qualifications for membership and submitted for the consideration of the meeting a comparison between the qualifications required by the Town Planning Institute in the United Kingdom, the American Institute of Planners and the Town Planning Institute of Canada

Mr. A.E.K. Bunnell, speaking on the recognition of membership, noted that it would be necessary to secure legislation at the provincial level to establish legally the professional status of the Institute. It was Mr. Bunnell's opinion that the Institute was not yet ready to apply for such legislation.

General discussion followed and a number of resolutions resulted.

MR. JOHN T. HOWARD'S ADDRESS

Mr. Howard, the President of the American Institute of Planners, spoke at the luncheon meeting on the 19th of November.

At the request of the Institute, Mr. Howard's talk referred to the history and problems of the growth of the American Institute. The extent of this growth is shown by a tenfold increase in membership in the last 20 years leading to a present day figure of 1400.

A major trend in A.I.P. policy has been a move towards a broadening in the interpretation of their definition of planning as included in their constitution. From the restricted field of physical design, it has grown to include the "determination of the policies which set the goals and objectives of such designing". The result is that persons with basic training as lawyers, public administrators, sociologists, land economists, and engineers are now included in the ranks of the Planners.

Mr. Howard then described the organisation of the American Institute and explained how the bulk of the substantive work was carried out by 25 committees with a paid headquarters staff looking after the administrative needs and the production of the Journal and Newsletter. At the local level there are chapters which have a substantial amount of autonomy and operate as local professional societies as well as participating significantly in the Institute's national activities.

In considering the functions of the Institute, Mr. Howard used three headings: Professional Affairs, Planning Techniques, and Planning Policy.

There are a number of permanent standing committees which work on the problems of professional affairs. Their concern is with the training and the behavior of the members and with their relationships to people and organisations outside the profession. Another standing committee of equal importance is the committee responsible for professional education. This committee has produced statements on the appropriate content and form of planning courses.

International co-operation is another aspect of professional activity which is provided for by a special standing committee.

The second broad area of A.I.P. concern is the field of planning techniques. In this the Journal is the chief instrument for the sharing and exchange of technical knowledge. At the Chapter level the meetings are often devoted to the local application of planning technology. There is also a standing committee on technology and symbols which is "wrestling with the difficult problem of arriving at a useful degree of unanimity upon those verbal and graphic devices which are the language of our technology."

The third function entitled "planning policy" is almost entirely concerned with governmental policy in the United States. Various committees are working on policy aspects of planning and planning law.

Mr. Howard concluded his paper by reiterating that he looked forward to many future opportunities for fruitful collaboration between the T.P.I.C. and the A.I.P.

MEMBERSHIP DISCUSSION

This topic for the final session on Saturday afternoon was dealt with in four parts. Dr. E. G. Faludi spoke on the organisation of the Institute, while the second part discussed amendments to the Bylaws. This was lead by Mr. W. F.H. McAdams who presented a report and recommendations for improving the present Bylaws. Mr. J.S.L. King followed with comments on the procedure of approval of membership and the final discussion dealt with the Regional Chapters. Some resolutions were passed but the majority of the proposals were referred to the Council for consideration.

NEXT ANNUAL MEETING

The next Annual Meeting and Conference of the Institute will be held at the Banff School of Fine Arts, September 20th and 21st, 1956.

SCHOLARSHIP

Harvard University. The Department of City Planning and Landscape Architecture, Cambridge 38, Massachusetts, announces new scholarship assistance for 1956-1957.

The Alfred Bettman Foundation is offering a scholarship, or scholarships, during the academic year 1956-1957 for graduate studies in City or Regional Planning to a student or students accepted for admission, or already enrolled, in the Department of City Planning and Landscape Architecture at Harvard University. The Scholarship, or Scholarships, is in the total amount of $1,200.

Recommendations for the award will be made to The Alfred Bettman Foundation by the Department on the basis of admissions approved prior to April 1, 1956.

POSITIONS VACANT

ALBERTA PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

Research Assistant in Town and Rural Planning Branch, Department of Municipal Affairs. Salary: $3,720 to $4,740, plus cost of living bonus now approximately $300 per annum. Duties: Planning research and advising local authorities. Qualifications: Masters degree in sociology, geography, architecture, engineering or economics with specialisation in physical planning. Experience: Nil, but preference to applicants with experience on planning staffs. Apply to Director of Personnel, Room 107, Legislative Building, Edmonton, Alberta.

CORPORATION OF THE DISTRICT OF KITIMAT

Assistant Planner: $440 - $545 per month, plus housing bonus depending on qualifications. Duties: Assist in detailing and implementing Master Plan of New Town and studies for zoning and subdivision regulations also traffic planning.. Qualifications: Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering or Architecture or Landscape Architecture with at least two years' experience in community planning or Masters Degree in planning.
Apply to Box 400, Station "A", Kitimat, B.C.

TOWNSHIP OF TORONTO

Draughtsman $3,000 to $3,900. Duties will include development of special techniques for map presentation. Prospects of supervising draughting section in expanding department.

Apply to Town Planner and Secretary-Treasurer Box 430, Cooksville, Ontario.

CITY OF WINDSOR

Chief Planner. Salary to be negotiated.

Qualifications: Degree in Planning and at least three years' experience or degree in architecture, landscape architecture, engineering, economics, or sociology, plus at least four years' planning experience. Duties: To organise a planning department in the City of Windsor (Population 127,000), revise Master Plan, carry out studies leading to a redevelopment program. The Chief Planner will also have to act as consultant to the Windsor Planning Area Board with a population of 185,000.

Apply to Mr. J.B. Adamac, City Clerk, City Hall, Windsor, Ontario.

TOWN PLANNING INSTITUTE OF CANADA

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